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INFORMATION REPORT
CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Bolivia/Uruguay

DATE DISTR 12 JAN 50

SUBJECT Meeting of Victor Paz Estenssoro and Daniel
Iturralde in Montevideo

NO. OF PAGES 2

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ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 2
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. It has been reported that Daniel Fernando Iturralde, former Bolivian Minister in Uruguay during the regime of Villarroel, arrived in Montevideo on 17 December 1949 from Buenos Aires, and immediately contacted the exiled Bolivian MNR leader Victor Paz Estenssoro. Iturralde has been touring Latin America as the United Nations representative in Italy for UNICEF. Prior to his going to Buenos Aires, Iturralde had vacationed in Bolivia.

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2. [REDACTED] Iturralde counseled Paz Estenssoro not to participate in or offer support to any revolutionary movements against the present regime in Bolivia. Iturralde said that Paz Estenssoro's prestige in Bolivia was constantly increasing, and his participation in any such movement that might fail would adversely affect his prestige and might prevent his returning to Bolivia.
3. Iturralde said that the present regime in Bolivia had very little chance of surviving as it was constantly losing popular support and dissident groups were appearing on all sides. He felt that Paz Estenssoro should allow this situation to intensify until the moment arrived when Paz Estenssoro would be requested to return to Bolivia to head a new government. Paz Estenssoro assured Iturralde that he did not intend to lead any rebellious groups within the near future.*
4. Iturralde furnished Paz Estenssoro with photostatic copies of two articles which appeared in a newspaper called Malos Tiempos, published in Cochabamba on 29 November 1949. One of the articles contained a series of questions posed to the Bolivian government. The second article was an ultimatum from the political prisoners in the Bolivian National Penitentiary. Translations of these articles are attached.
5. Iturralde said that an endeavor had been made, without success, to have the questionnaire published in Chile and Argentina. He suggested that Paz Estenssoro try to have it published in Uruguay in order to offset propaganda being put out by the Bolivian government.

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6. [REDACTED] Paz Estenssoro has described Iturralde as "one of the most outstanding Bolivian intellectuals," whom he would appoint Minister of Foreign Affairs, if he were to become President of Bolivia. Paz Estenssoro

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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continues to receive correspondence from sympathizers within Bolivia. A surveillance of the exiled Bolivians in Uruguay has failed to reflect any great activity on the part of any members of the group.

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~~Comment.~~ this decision may also be due to the financial need of the Bolivian exiles residing in Uruguay. Their initial enthusiasm for using Montevideo as a base of operations for a conspiracy against the Bolivian government has given way to the need for obtaining the necessary funds on which to live.

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Encl. 1 - Translation of article which appeared in newspaper, Malos Tiempos, captioned "QUESTIONS OF CURRENT INTEREST POSED TO MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND GOVERNMENT". (1 page).

Encl. 2 - Translation of article which appeared in newspaper, Malos Tiempos, captioned "SINCE MIDNIGHT YESTERDAY 499 POLITICAL PRISONERS ON HUNGER STRIKE". (1 page).

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